Nova Scotia
Minerals Update
Department of Natural Resources, Mineral Resources Branch

Volume 25, no. 2 *Spring 2008*

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NOVA SCOTIA
Natural Resources

Joggins Fossil Centre Opens

The long awaited opening of the Joggins Fossil Centre was held on April 21 and 22 in Joggins. The centre is a spectacular new facility that houses interpretive exhibits for visitors and acts as a departure point for guided tours of the fossil cliffs.

The Joggins Fossil Cliffs are one of Nova Scotia's, and the world's, great natural treasures. They provide the best record in the world of the geological history of the coal age, they have inspired generations of Nova Scotians to take an interest in their geological and paleontological heritage, and they have played an important role in the development of some of mankind's biggest ideas concerning the evolution of life on earth. They are truly a world-class heritage resource.

The Joggins Fossil Centre finally provides us with the opportunity to display this magnificent resource to the world. It is an opportunity not only for scientists and researchers to continue to unravel the evolution of life in this important stage of earth history, but also for residents and visitors to learn about the importance of Joggins in helping us understand that history.

This centre is the result a persistent vision by a number of individuals, organizations and government departments, and many years of hard work. It is a striking example of the good things that can happen when the community, all lev-

On Earth Day (Tuesday, April 22), the Joggins Fossil Centre was officially opened to members of the local community. The sandstone cladding seen on these walls was quarried in nearby Wallace, Cumberland County. The columns are finished to resemble the fossilized tree trunks typical of the Joggins cliffs. Photograph by Wally Hayes, Nova Scotia Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage.

The past, present and future come together as Mr. Don Reid, the 'Keeper of the Cliffs' for several decades, enjoys the opening of the new Fossil Centre with a group of school children in the building's Fossil Lab. Mr. Reid's personal collection of fossils from the Joggins cliffs sustained his own Fossil Centre for many years and form a cornerstone of the new facility's collection. Photograph by Wally Hayes, Nova Scotia Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage.

els of government, and passionate individuals work together towards a common goal.

The opening was timed to coincide with Earth Day, and staged over two days in order to allow for a series of events that involved all important players in the ceremonies. On Monday, April 21, there was a ceremony for invited guests, including Premier Rodney MacDonald, the Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister responsible for ACOA, and the Honourable Murray Scott, MLA for the region.

On Tuesday, there was a ceremony for the community, which came out in force to see this new facility in their midst. Following a ceremony, which overflowed the multi-purpose room of the centre, community members were able to spend the day viewing the building and the exhibits. The building rang with the excited cries of school children and the more sedate exclamations of adults. A common theme that one could hear expressed throughout the building was the sentiment: "I can't believe this is happening in Joggins".

One of the leading proponents of this project for many years has been Dr. John Calder of the Department of Natural Resources. He has been a driving force behind the development of the Joggins fossil cliffs and their nomination as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. He has worked tirelessly to promote the concept, and has provided his special knowledge of the coal age and its life to the development of the exhibits that are now displayed in the centre.

The Department of Natural Resources has been able to help out in other ways as well, providing helicopters for aerial photography, developing agreements with the Joggins Fossil Institute on application of the *Beaches Act*, or conveying a small piece of Crown land here in town so this centre could be built. DNR believes that Nova Scotia's geological heritage should be celebrated, protected, and, where appropriate, displayed to visitors so that it can contribute to the well being of our communities and our people.

The quality of the building lives up to the quality of the exhibits inside. In design, it reflects the natural beauty of the Joggins Cliffs. The inclined walls mimic the formations of the cliffs, with sandstone cladding quarried from nearby Wallace, Nova Scotia. The overall shape of the building and the use of wooden siding are reminiscent of the area's coal mines. The architects have created an environmentally-friendly building with many cutting-edge environmental features. It has a living roof, the capability to collect potable rainwater, solar panels for heat and electricity generation, a large windmill on-site, and ground-source heat pump installation for heating in the winter and cooling in the summer. The facility is capable of generating up to 60% of its electricity needs.

The centre should quickly become one of the 'must see' visitor experiences in the province. It features many amenities including a gift shop, lavatories, an indoor and an outdoor café, an outdoor maze based on the themes of evolution and extinction, parking for up to 60 cars and 7 buses, RVs, motor campers and trailers and wheelchair accessibility. The facility also features a multi-purpose room for educational, community and business groups, labs for resident scientist and visiting scientific groups, offices for the Joggins Fossil Institute staff, and fossil collection storage facilities. Interpretative programs begin on May 17 and run until November 11. More details about the centre and the Joggins Fossil Institute can be found at http://www.jogginsfossilcliffs.net/.

Scott Swinden

Promoting Nova Scotia's Resources at Roundup and PDAC

Attending annual conferences across Canada is an important part of informing both junior and major mining companies about the benefits of exploring and investing in Nova Scotia. The AMEBC Roundup conference in Vancouver and the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PCAC) in Toronto are rated as two of the best opportunities in North America for the province to showcase its mineral resources.

Roundup 2008, held from January 28 to 31 at the Westin Bayshore in Vancouver, is regarded as the world's largest technical mineral exploration conference. This year over 6,700 registrants from 48 countries helped celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Mineral Exploration Roundup. The conference featured 10 short courses, map and core tents, and several field trips, in addition to hundreds of displays.

As in past years, Scott Swinden and Paul Smith from the Mineral Resources Branch helped to highlight selected resources across the province at the Roundup. With the branch display located at the top of the escalators, there was a steady stream of highly interested delegates stopping by to inquire about the province's resources and seeking investment opportunities. By the end of the first two days, when the branch booth was set up, more than 300 delegates had entered to discuss the geology and mineral deposits of Nova Scotia. During the last two days of the conference staff focused on discussions with individual companies about specific investment opportunities for Nova Scotia prospectors and mining companies. Several company-to-company discussions followed with results expected to be positive.

The PDAC 2008 International Convention, Trade Show and Investors Exchange, March 2-5, broke yet another record with 20,162 people attending the 76th gathering at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. There were 1001 exhibiting Trade Show and Investors Exchange companies at the convention, which created a nearly explosive atmosphere of excitement. The increasing size of the event prompted a move from the North convention building to the South building, to accommodate the increased participation. This year's Natural Resources delegation consisted of Minister the Hon. David Morse, Deputy Minister Peter Underwood, Mineral Resources Branch Executive Director Scott Swinden, Geological Services Division Director Mike MacDonald, Registrar of Mineral and Petroleum Titles Rick Ratcliffe, Regional Geologist Sandra Johnston, Senior Geologist Terry Goodwin and Liaison Geologist Paul Smith.

The Mineral Resources Branch sponsored ten prospectors to attend the PDAC conference in Toronto, March 2-5. The branch helped prospectors to produce high-quality displays to showcase their 'Properties for Option'.

Typically, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland & Labrador share a common area at this conference, know as the Atlantic Rock Room. In addition this year, the three provinces collaborated on a joint Atlantic Canada pavilion with the theme: "Explore the Potential". This large booth area quickly became the focus of geologists, investors and company representatives. A wireless internet connection at this booth also allowed rapid communication between conference delegates and their head offices, where final decisions were made to conclude a variety of agreements.

The Mineral Resources Branch sponsored ten prospectors to attend the PDAC conference to help them formulate investment deals on their mineral prospects. By the end of the conference all but two of the prospectors were offered financial agreements and the province was able to connect several local companies with interested international parties to conclude specific mineral deals. The total dollar value of these agreements is difficult to calculate but more than half a million dollars is a reasonable estimate.

Paul Smith

Ever-changing Client Needs: Who Will it Be Tomorrow?

Historically, the client base of the Mineral Resources Branch of the Department of Natural Resources was relatively stable and predictable. Prospectors and companies engaged in exploration for commodities like gold, copper, lead, zinc, tin, tungsten, coal or hydrocarbons were the traditional client base, along with researchers from universities and other government organizations. Lately, however, other clients are asking for the same information, but for different applications.

Since DNR is the custodian of all geoscientific data (bedrock, surficial, geochemical, geophysical, etc.), daily requests are being received from a new, highly variable client base. This client base includes environmental consulting firms requesting data on background arsenic (or lead, copper, mercury, etc.) concentrations in soil, epidemiologists and toxicologists interested in areas of elevated arsenic or radon with respect to human health issues, or municipal planners interested in areas prone to acid rock drainage (ARD), which is very destructive to infrastructure such as underground water and sewer lines. These requests have prompted the department to expand its research to include the buffering capacities of the province's bedrock and surficial materials to neutralize the effects of ARD and acid precipitation.

With increased public awareness of the projected effects of climate change, DNR has been asked to identify coastal areas that may be at risk of erosion and flooding due to major storms. The department has also been asked to provide major input in producing updated 'risk' maps to show the potential for hazards such as arsenic or uranium in groundwater. Special interest groups like the Sackville River Association or Trout Nova Scotia ask for specific geological information that indicates where to find favourable fish habitat (see v. 24, no. 1).

One outcome of the changing market for reliable geoscience information has been the introduction of an Environmental Geology Program in the Mineral Resources Branch. The purpose of the program is to identify and assess geological hazards that have significant potential to affect public health, safety and land use in Nova Scotia. The program is just underway in 2008 and it is hard to assess how comprehensive this program may become in the future.

Terry Goodwin

Can't See the Forest *or* the Trees: LiDAR for Geological Mapping in the Halifax Regional Municipality

The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has obtained access to a LiDAR survey collected by the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). This survey provides DNR with an opportunity to dramatically improve the resolution of geological mapping, taking advantage of LiDAR's ability create an image of the earth's surface without vegetation. The survey area covers Halifax Harbour Drainage Basin and East Petpeswick Peninsula and surroundings. A number of partners are working with HRM to provide necessary technical expertise and to broaden the scope of the survey's uses. These partners include Natural Resources Canada (Geological Survey of Canada), Centre of Geographic Sciences (NSCC Annapolis Valley Campus), NS Department of Energy, Halifax Port Authority, Dalhousie University and DNR.

LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) is a relatively new remote sensing technique that transmits light pulses from an airborne (plane or helicopter) unit. The pulses reflect off surfaces (trees, houses, buildings, ground), and the time delay from transmission to the reflected return gives a precise measurement (within centimetres) of the distance between the airborne unit and that surface. Since the location and orientation of the airborne unit is known, a precise Digital Elevation Model (DEM) of the surface elevation can be calculated. One of the most useful geological applications of this type of survey is the production of the 'bare earth' model, which shows the topography of the earth's surface without vegetation. This is possible because pulses are partially reflected off some surfaces, but continue to penetrate through others (such as the tree canopy). This allows the data to be processed to the lowest surface elevation, which is the ground.

Application of the bare earth model to geology improves the precision of mapping surficial materials and bedrock structures. In the future, LiDAR data might also be used to model surficial material thicknesses, map geologic units that might be susceptible to acid rock drainage, and locate small faults, mine tailings and gravel deposits that were previously hidden by vegetation.

One of the main objectives of the HRM survey is to develop a Halifax Harbour plan that includes a forecast of sea-level rise and storm surge events. Sea level is rising in the Halifax area as a result of combined crustal subsidence (~17 cm/century, resulting from the glacial history of the region) and global sea-level rise (18 cm/century over the past 50 years). This rate is expected to increase substantially over coming decades in response to climate change. The LiDAR survey provides a model that can be used to identify sites most susceptible to flooding, especially in the event of storm surges, and will allow for improved planning of infrastructure. Other applications include watershed planning, floodplain analysis, forestry and agricultural management, and transportation and infrastructure planning. The survey will also leave a legacy of high-quality data, and acts as a 'snap shot' of the region that could be used to map future changes in forests stands, coastal erosion, fluvial sedimentation and man-made structures.

Dan Utting

From The Mineral Inventory Files

Volcanogenic Massive Sulphides at the Stirling Zn-Pb-Cu Deposit

Nova Scotia's only genuine example of a volcanogenic massive sulphide (VMS) deposit is found at Stirling in southeast Cape Breton Island (Fig. 1). Also known as the Mindamar Mine, this deposit produced 1.2 Mt of 6.4% Zn, 1.5% Pb, 0.74% Cu, 2.2 oz. Ag/ton and 0.03 oz. Au/ton. Originally discovered as a Cu occurrence in the 1890s, by 1904 the deposit was producing Cu from a small open cut. In 1915 Zn-Pb sulphides were recognized in nearby trenches. Diamond-drilling, sinking of a shaft, and limited underground development commenced and continued until 1925. Mining was initiated by British Metals as Stirling Mines Limited in 1927. The company deepened the shaft to 240 m and constructed a 250 ton per day mill. Mining continued until 1931 but then ceased due to low metal prices. The property remained dormant until 1949 when Mindamar Metals Corporation re-evaluated the operation, and optioned it to Dome Explorations Limited in 1951. Dome constructed a larger mill and sank a second, 357 m deep shaft, and mined the deposit until 1956. Since then, there have been several concerted exploration efforts directed at both the known deposit and the interbedded sequence of mixed volcanic and sedimentary rocks that extend northeast and southwest of the deposit for over 30 km. This trend of similar geology and associated hydrothermal alteration has become known as the Stirling Belt (Fig. 1).

The Stirling deposit consists of a sequence of Late Precambrian volcaniclastic rocks and flow units that range from mafic to intermediate and felsic compositions (Fig. 1). This volcanic pile is intruded by small intrusions, sheets and dykes of predominantly gabbroic composition. Many of these intrusions display features suggesting they are subvolcanic in origin and thus related to the volcanic pile they intrude. The volcanic sequence youngs toward the northwest and rocks beneath the lens-shaped sulphide ore bodies are typically more felsic.

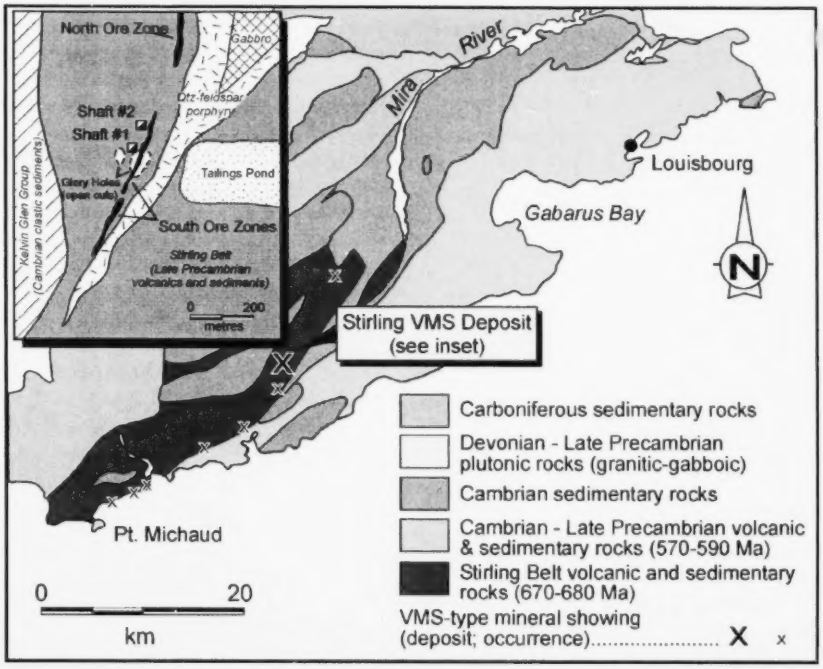

***Figure 1**. Geology map of southeast Cape Breton Island showing the Stirling Belt, the Stirling Pb-Zn-Cu deposit and other smaller VMS occurrences. Inset is a plan map of the former Stirling mine.*

Evidence of widespread hydrothermal alteration abounds at Stirling, with zones of carbonate, silica, sericite and epidote occurring in various combinations. Most prominent are thick sequences of quartz-talc-carbonate (QTC) alteration found throughout the package but especially developed below the sulphide lenses. The complexity and intensity of alteration have resulted in conflicting theories of origin. Originally, the ore was thought to be epigenetic replacement deposits formed by magmatically derived fluids migrating along the prominent shear zones that traverse the property. During the 1970s, however, close examination of the style of mineralization showed that it compares very favourably with the model for the volcanic-exhalative Kuroko massive sulphide deposits in Japan. General thought was that the QTC rock is an exhalative layer related to the same processes that gave rise to the massive sulphide lenses as the volcanic plumes vented out on to the ancient sea floor. Even though there has been some modification of this model, suggesting that the QTC rock is due to massive replacement of the host volcanics as opposed to a purely exhalative origin, the fact remains that there is a very strong case that Stirling represents a typical VMS deposit.

There have been numerous exploration efforts and scientific studies at Stirling since the cessation of mining in 1956. Unfortunately, none have resulted in any further mining. These efforts, however, have produced strong indications that the Stirling deposit and the entire Stirling Belt form a truly prospective VMS terrain.

G. A. O'Reilly

From The Mineral Inventory Files

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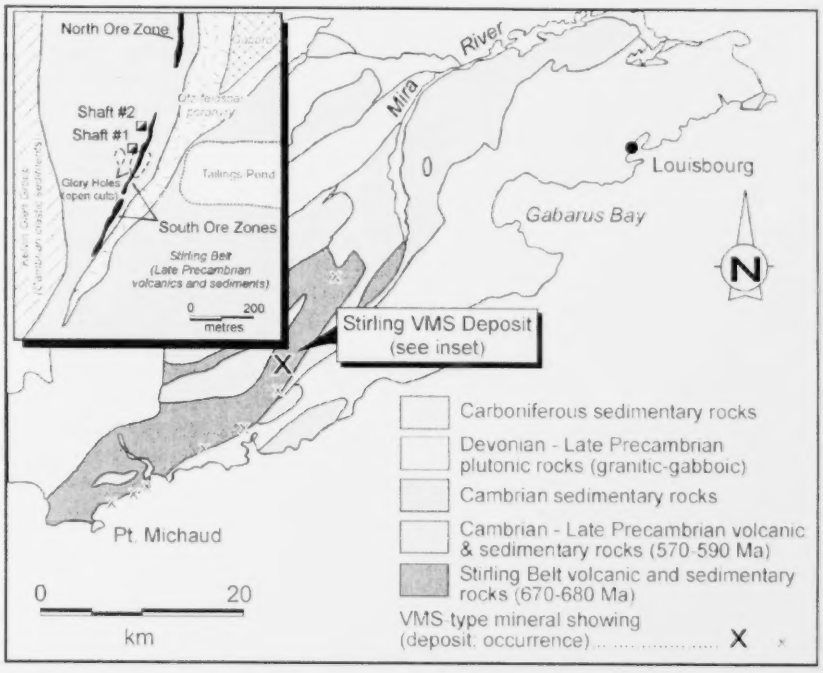

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G. A. O'Reilly

Dates Announced for Community Meetings on Natural Resources

Nova Scotians are invited to community meetings in May and June to share their ideas for a long-term natural resources strategy for the province. Voluntary Planning's Natural Resources Citizen Engagement Committee is hosting 25 meetings around the province. Dates and locations for the meetings are on Voluntary Planning's website at http://vp.gov.ns.ca. A document on the website will also provide a framework for written submissions, which will be accepted until July 31, 2008.

Following is a list of dates and locations for the 25 meetings to be held across the province. All meetings will be held from 6:30 to 9:00 pm.

- **Monday, May 12**, Pugwash, Saint Thomas More Church Hall, 79 Church St.
- **Tuesday, May 13**, Blockhouse, Blockhouse Fire Hall, 510 Highway 325
- **Tuesday, May 13**, Parrsboro, Parrsboro Fire Hall, 235 Willow St.
- **Tuesday, May 13**, Port Hawkesbury, Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre, 606 Reeves St.
- **Wednesday, May 14**, Middleton, NSCC Annapolis Valley Campus, 295 Commercial St.
- **Tuesday, May 20**, Tusket, École secondaire de Par-en-Bas, 360 Highway 308 North
- **Tuesday, May 20**, Dartmouth, Black Cultural Centre, 1149 Main St.
- **Tuesday, May 20**, Inverness, Inverness Co. Centre for the Arts, 16080 Highway 19
- **Wednesday, May 21**, Saulnierville, Royal Canadian Legion, 9938 Highway 1
- **Wednesday, May 21**, Middle Musquodoboit, Musquodoboit Valley Education Centre, 12014 Highway 224
- **Wednesday, May 21**, St. Ann's, Gaelic College, 51779 Cabot Trail
- **Thursday, May 22**, Debert, Debert Hospitality Centre, 130 Ventura Dr.
- **Thursday, May 22**, New Minas, New Minas Civic Centre, 9209 Commercial St.
- **Monday, May 26**, Shelburne, Shelburne Fire Hall and Community Centre, 63 King St.
- **Tuesday, May 27**, Cheticamp, Centre Acadien, 35 Baron Rd.
- **Tuesday, May 27**, Windsor, Hants County War Memorial Community Centre, 78 Thomas St.
- **Tuesday, June 3**, Sherbrooke, St. Mary's Lions Club, Highway 7
- **Tuesday, June 3**, Sheet Harbour, Masonic Hall, 42 Sprott Lane
- **Tuesday, June 3**, Weymouth, Royal Canadian Legion, 24 Back St.
- **Wednesday, June 4**, Sydney, Membertou Trade and Convention Centre, 50 Maillard St.
- **Wednesday, June 4**, Yarmouth, Royal Canadian Legion, 75 Parade St.
- **Monday, June 9**, Halifax, Holiday Inn, 1980 Robie St.
- **Wednesday, June 11**, Liverpool, Royal Canadian Legion, 43 Henry Hensey Dr.
- **Wednesday, June 11**, Stellarton, Nova Scotia Museum of Industry, 147 North Foord St.
- **Thursday, June 12**, Antigonish, St. Ninian's Place, 120 Ninian St.

Voluntary Planning Press Release, April 24, 2008

January-March 2008 Open Assessment Reports

Report Number	NTS	Licensee
AR ME 2006-001	11F/15C	Jubilee Minerals Limited
AR ME 2006-002	11K/02B	Jubilee Minerals Limited
AR ME 2006-003	11K/02B	Jubilee Minerals Limited
AR ME 2006-006	11E/06C	Cullen, M P
AR ME 2006-007	11E/13A, B	Intragaz and Company Limited Partnership
AR ME 2006-010	11F/04D	Barrett, A M
AR ME 2006-011	11F/16D	Barrett, A M
AR ME 2006-013	11E/05D	Allen, L J
AR ME 2006-014	11D/14C	DeBay, A
AR ME 2006-015	11F/16D	Rainbow Resources Limited
AR ME 2006-016	21A/08B	Barkhouse, G
AR ME 2006-017	11D/16C	Oicle, G
AR ME 2006-018	11D/16C	H and E Mullen Investments Limited
AR ME 2006-019	11F/15D	Unama'ki Resource Exploration and Investment
AR ME 2006-020	11F/05A	Schenkels, H F
AR ME 2006-022	11E/02A	Acadian Gold Corporation
AR ME 2006-023	11E/02A, D	Acadian Gold Corporation
AR ME 2006-025	11F/04B	MacNaughton, T
AR ME 2006-026	11D/11D	Acadian Gold Corporation
AR ME 2006-027	11D/16C	Jewers, J M
AR ME 2006-028	11F/04D	Grant, S
AR ME 2006-029	11F/04C	Rainbow Resources Limited
AR ME 2006-030	11E/01A	Meguma Resource Enterprises Incorporated
AR ME 2006-031	11F/10C	Richman, J
AR ME 2006-032	11E/02A	Schenkels, H F
AR ME 2006-033	11F/15D	Unama'ki Resource Exploration and Investment
AR ME 2006-034	11F/10C	Barrett, A M
AR ME 2006-035	11D/14C	Acadian Gold Corporation
AR ME 2006-037	11D/15C	MacDonald, R H
AR ME 2006-040	11E/07A	Acadian Gold Corporation
AR ME 2006-041	11E/01C	Acadian Gold Corporation
AR ME 2006-042	11E/01C	Acadian Gold Corporation
AR ME 2006-043	11E/01C	Acadian Gold Corporation
AR ME 2006-044	11E/01C	Acadian Gold Corporation
AR ME 2006-045	11F/14B	Alva Construction Limited

Susan Saunders and Norman Lyttle

Status Report on the Mineral Resource Map Atlas

The importance of future mineral resources is difficult to evaluate when decisions are made about the use of land in Nova Scotia. Despite this issue, land-use decisions proceed out of necessity or public pressure, and information that can inform these decisions is needed to represent what is known of the mineral potential of Nova Scotia. The Mineral Resources Branch of DNR has taken the initiative to address this need by means of a map atlas of the province's mineral resource potential (see vol. 24, no. 2).

A guiding principle for the Mineral Resource Map Atlas is to use data that are irrefutable, and where scientific interpretation is required, to present both the data and rationale clearly. To date the atlas has been prepared in three series, each comprising a set of four overlapping map sheets to cover the province at a scale of 1: 250 000 (Fig. 1).

The first series, *Exploration and Mining Activity,* provides a record of mining and exploration activity in Nova Scotia during the past 34 years. This series draws on data from mineral claim staking, mining permits and leases, past and current mining operations, and exploration and development activities such as drillholes and seismic surveys. Claim-staking data are layered to reflect repeated staking activity during the period 1974-2006, and effectively map trends of economic interest, strengthened by the other data sets.

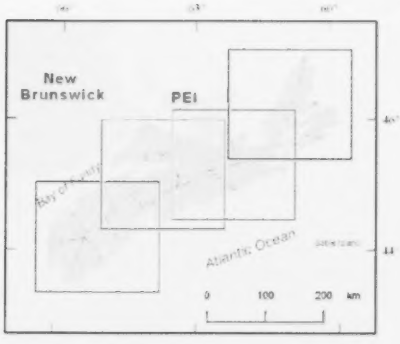


Figure 1. *The Mineral Resource Map Atlas consists of three thematic series, each comprising four overlapping map sheets as shown above.*

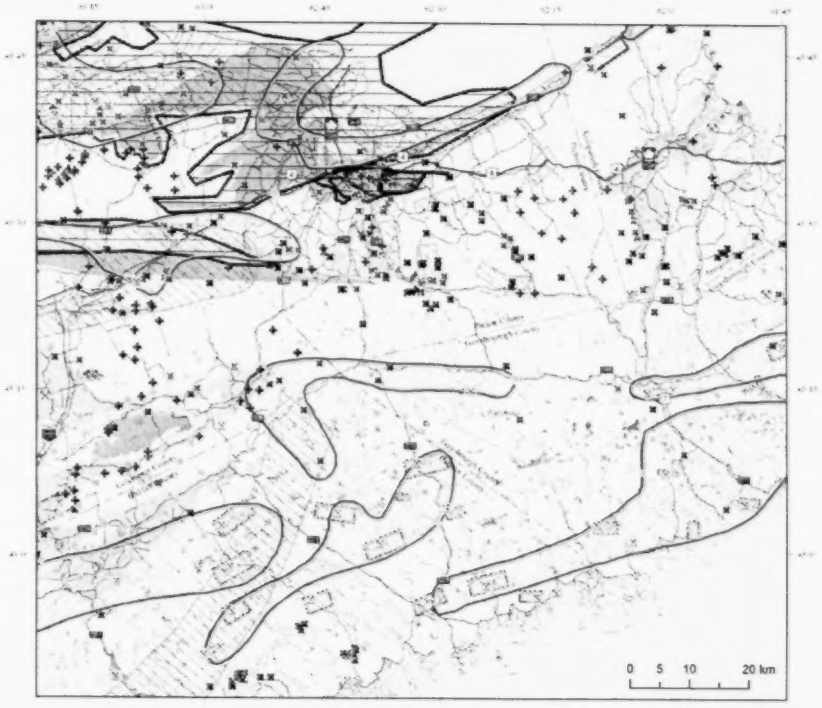


Figure 2*. A small section of the Mineral Deposits map series. The map includes gold districts, metallogenic domains, coal basins, peat areas, and occurrences of metallic and industrial minerals. The Windsor and Cumberland groups are shaded.*

Trends identified in the first series dove-tail with known mineral and aggregate deposits delineated in the second (*Mineral Deposits*) and third (*Aggregate Resources*) map series, which have been reviewed during the past year by mineral commodity specialists within DNR. Commodities reflected in the *Mineral Deposits* series (Fig. 2) include base and precious metals, industrial minerals, and energy resources such as coal, peat and petroleum. Defined deposit areas include metallogenic domains, ranging from historic gold districts to more recent targets such as iron oxide-copper-gold deposits, and stratigraphically controlled resources (e.g. lead, zinc, gypsum, salt, coal) of the Windsor and Cumberland groups. The third series, *Aggregate Resources,* reflects potential bedrock and surficial resources. Aggregate resources are usually accessed by surface operations near the sites where they are used, making them prone to sterilization by land-use restrictions.

The Mineral Resource Map Atlas, based on carefully constrained information, will help to reveal these important provincial resources to those who make decisions about land use. The maps also lay the foundation for future Geographic Information System (GIS)-based compilations on mineral resources, an area for which opportunities are virtually boundless. Although the atlas can never be considered a definitive series of maps, since it addresses the future with today's information, the maps produced to date reveal information on the province's resources that was not previously obvious. Hopefully, the atlas will deliver such information to the wide range of professionals who make decisions on the use of land in Nova Scotia.

John Calder, Angelina Ehler and Brian Fisher

Important Notice to Subscribers

This edition (volume 25, number 2) of the *Nova Scotia Minerals Update* will be the last issue of the newsletter to be published in hard copy and mailed to clients. Beginning with the Summer 2008 edition of the newsletter, future issues will only be published in .pdf version and posted on the Mineral Resources Branch web site at the following address:

http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/meb/pdf/mu.htm

Similarly, all future Release Notices will only be published in .pdf version and posted on the Mineral Resources Branch web site at the following address:

http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/meb/pubs/pubsnew.htm

If you would like to be added to our electronic mailing list and receive an e-mail message informing you of the availability of future newsletters and Release Notices, with hot links, please send your name and e-mail address to the following address:

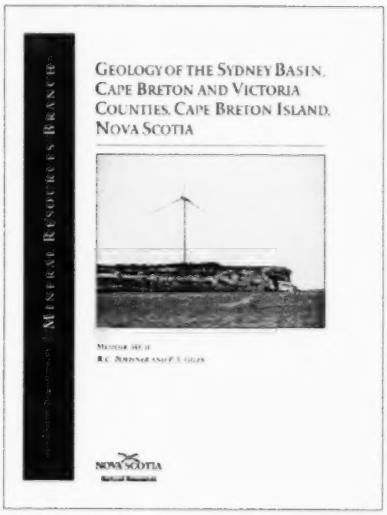
minerals@gov.ns.ca

Norman Lyttle

Sydney Basin Memoir Released

The Mineral Resources Branch is pleased to announce the release of Memoir ME 11: *Geology of the Sydney Basin, Cape Breton and Victoria Counties, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia,* by R. C. Boehner and P. S. Giles. Memoirs are comprehensive, detailed scientific documents on the geology of a specific area.

The project to map the Sydney Basin was a federal-provincial initiative funded by the Nova Scotia Department of Mines and Energy and Energy, Mines and Resources Canada as part of the Canada-Nova Scotia Cooperative Mineral Program (1981-1984). In 1986 the Nova Scotia Department of Mines and Energy released map 1986-1: *Geological Map of the Sydney Basin, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia*, by R. C. Boehner and P. S. Giles, at a scale of 1:50 000. As federal-provincial agreements progressed in the 1980s the authors focused their efforts on other projects and priorities. Through the years, senior author Bob Boehner kept working on the detailed report to accompany Map 1986-1, and he submitted the manuscript before his retirement in 2004 (see vol. 22, no. 1). Co-author Peter Giles spent many months with the manuscript to bring aspects of the stratigraphic nomenclature into a context of recent advances since the field mapping was completed. Contract geoscience editor Kathy Mills worked with both authors through the last few years of revisions and early in 2008 the manuscript was approved for release by both authors and the Director of the Geological Services Division. The memoir comprises 98 pages and includes Map ME 1986-1 in a back pocket at a cost of $20.


MINERAL RESOURCES BRANCH
GEOLOGY OF THE SYDNEY BASIN, CAPE BRETON AND VICTORIA COUNTIES, CAPE BRETON ISLAND, NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA

Special Note

Mineral Resources Branch Staff on the Move

At the end of March 2008, Secretary Hazel Lucas retired from the Mineral Resources Branch after more than 30 years in the provincial government. Geologist Rick Horne resigned from the branch in February 2008 to work in the private sector. Rick started his work with the Province of Nova Scotia in 1985. In July 2008, Geologist Paul Smith will retire after 33 years with the province. Paul intends to accept a position in the private sector.

Dates to Remember

May 12-15, 2008
Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists Annual Convention. Round Up Centre and UEAB Core Research Centre, Calgary, AB. For more information please visit the web site: www.cspg.org/conventions/conventions-annual.cfm.

May 26-28, 2008
Geological Association of Canada - Mineralogical Association of Canada, Joint Annual Meeting. Quebec City Convention Centre, Quebec City, QC. For more information please visit the meeting web site: http://quebec2008.net/index.cfm.

June 12-14, 2008
The Mining Society of Nova Scotia, 121st Annual General Meeting, Inverary Resort, Baddeck, Nova Scotia. This year's theme is "Atlantic Canada's Resources: Supporting a Sustainable Future." For more information phone or fax The Mining Society of Nova Scotia at 902-567-2147.

August 15-17, 2008
Nova Scotia's Gem and Mineral Show, Lion's Recreation Centre, Western Ave., Parrsboro, NS. For more information please visit the web site http://museum.gov.ns.ca/fgm/mineralgem/show.html.